



# The Pipeline

October 22, 2002  
Volume 2002, Issue 34

## Inside this Issue:

**KECC yard sale nets \$665 for charity**

**Charity profile: Easter Seals Kentucky**

**Sick leave need**

**Division of Child Support celebrates Employee Appreciation with indoor picnic**

**Staff takes time out for fun during Employee Recognition week**

**Legislators, cabinet fight elder abuse on multiple fronts**



*Angie Hall, a worker in the CHR cafeteria, makes a deal Wednesday with KECC committee member Michele Lilly at the KECC yard sale.*

## KECC yard sale nets \$665 for charity

*By Anya Armes Weber*

The Cabinet's Kentucky Employee Charitable Campaign (KECC) committee raised \$665 at its yard, book and bake sale last week, said sale organizer Michele Lilly.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the six KECC charities. Thanks to all who bought or donated household items, books and baked goods.

The yard sale tally brings CFC closer to its fund-raising goal. As of Oct. 16, CFC has raised \$39,773, or 35.3 percent of our 2001 total of \$136,936. CFC's KECC Coordinator Bonnie Cox said she hopes staff can raise \$150,000 this year.

## Halloween events

Don't forget the upcoming Halloween activities. The KECC committee is planning a costume contest for Thursday, Oct. 31. Staff who pay a \$2 entry fee will be judged for funniest, scariest and most original



costumes. Winners in each category will receive \$10.

Also, offices can decorate a pumpkin and enter it in the contest. During lunch hours Oct 29-31, staff can vote for their favorite with spare change. The office that raises the most money for KECC will win a prize.

More details to come in future Pipelines.

## Charity profile: Easter Seals Kentucky

*This is the third of six profiles spotlighting the participating KECC charities.*

Easter Seals Kentucky provides direct programs and services for more than 30,000 physically challenged children and adults from throughout the Commonwealth each year. It's the largest provider of physical rehabilitation in Kentucky. Easter Seals helps people involved in a catastrophic accident or who have a chronic and disabling condition achieve maximum independence.

The group provides comprehensive programs for treatment of brain injury, stroke, amputation, spina bifida and autism.

For more information about Easter Seals Kentucky, log onto <http://www.cardinalhill.org/>.

## Sick leave needed

Barbara Anglin, Division of Family Support, is in need of donated sick leave. To donate leave time, contact Hope Bryant at 564-3440.





## Division of Child Support celebrates Employee Appreciation with indoor picnic

*By Carolyn Osboorne*

The Quality Central office for the Division of Child Support held an Employee Appreciation Picnic at their building on Schenkel Lane on a rainy Friday, Oct. 11.

Kem McWhorter, Joy Simpson, Lori Hundley, Debra Feroze and Carolyn Osboorne were the five committee members who collaborated to make this event a highly motivating, fun time for the entire building. The rain outside in no way hampered the fun.

The event began with a huge lunch - giving all of the employees in the building the opportunity to mingle and talk. During the lunch, karaoke became the main event. There were prizes for the top singer, Tim McClain, together with a runner-up gift for Sarah Hargis. Everyone in the building in some way participated. There was singing, dancing and a wonderful time had by all.

Steve Veno, Director of the Division of Child Support, was not present due to other pressing commitments. However, he presented each employee with a Certificate of Appreciation. He also paid for an overnight stay at a state park to the winner of a ticket drawing. Each employee in attendance received a ticket as they entered the luncheon line. The matching ticket was placed in a box for the drawing. Jennifer Wood was the lucky winner.

Dairy Queen of Frankfort donated 75 pounds of ice for the drinks. Troy

Worley, accounting branch manager, provided all of the bread and buns for the barbecue and cold cuts.

Almost a week later, there is still talk of the fun time had by all.

Child Support's next planned event is a yard sale/bake sale to be held on Oct. 25 at 730 Schenkel Lane. If it is a nice day, the event will be outside outside to entice anyone walking or driving by to stop and be a part of this event. The proceeds for this event will be turned over to the Kentucky Charitable Campaign to help those in need.

It is essential that we all appreciate what others do, say thanks and have a wonderful time doing it. We should all add some fun to what we do, it only helps to benefit those we serve.

Click on the following links to view photos from the Child Support event.

- [Maria Lewis, Jan Bean \(Assistant Director\) and Kim Johnson enjoy themselves while dancing.](#)
- [Mary Sparrow, Maria Lewis, Mickey Miller and Jan Bean all have a laugh as they "cut a rug".](#)
- [Pam Warman and Mickey Miller shake their hips to the music.](#)
- [Debra Feroze and Jennifer Wood prepare to sing.](#)
- [Sarah Hargis performs for the group.](#)
- [Jan Bean and Kem McWhorter really get into their performance.](#)
- [The Accounting Branch performs! Sitting are Janie Games and Teresa Grisby. Row one, left to right, are: Dawn Wiley, Sarah Hargis, Sandra Barnett, Melissa Roby \(Supervisor\).](#)
- [In the second row are: Latoya Winkfield and Judy Smith.](#)
- [Follow this link for a larger version of the Child Support photo collage.](#)

## Staff takes time out for fun during Employee Recognition week

*By Anya Armes Weber*

Several events during Employee Recognition Week (Oct. 7-11) gave Quality Central staff a chance to show their appreciation for one another.

All week long, supervisors and managers were encouraged to praise their staff using a packet of recognition materials provided by Quality Central Connections. Some managers had other ideas, tying "thank you" balloons to staff's chairs or encouraging a department lunch out of the office.

Here is a listing of some other activities last week:

- On Monday, Secretary Viola Miller hosted a reception for supervisors.
- At the QCC-sponsored employee recognition picnic on Wednesday, staff was treated to lunch and entertainment at Lakeview Park. Secretary Miller, Deputy Secretary Tim Jackson and other members of the leadership team welcomed about 400 employees to the picnic. Staff dined on chicken, potato salad, cole slaw and cookies. Disc jockey Larry Doyle of the Governor's Office for Technology played tunes and coordinated karaoke performances. Staff even took turns hoola-hooping.
- Thursday featured a health fair in the CHR lobby. Health care and wellness agencies shared information about their services.
- Also Thursday was a picnic for Disability Determination Services staff assigned to Quality Central but working in Louisville. About 110 DDS staff attended.
- On Friday, the Division of Child Support hosted a picnic despite the rain.
- Friday was also CFC T-shirt day. If you didn't order a shirt, there's still a chance to get one. The shirts are royal blue with the CFC logo on the front and the Comprehensive Family Services umbrella on back. T-shirts are \$12 and

*(Continued on page 3, col. 1)*

golf shirts are \$18. Call Carrie Copeland in the KCCVS office at 564-7420, or e-mail her at [carrie.copeland@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:carrie.copeland@mail.state.ky.us).

Leftover food from the picnics was donated to Frankfort and Louisville soup kitchens

The QCC team thanks all staff, supervisors and members of the leadership team for making Employee Recognition week a success. The picnic wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of donations from leadership. Employees who supported QCC fund-raisers and donated supplies for the event are also appreciated.

Finally, QCC thanks everyone who took part in the events of Employee Recognition week and hopes Quality Central staff can make staff appreciation a full-time activity!

## Legislators, cabinet fight elder abuse on multiple fronts

By Mike Jennings

At many levels of government, there's growing awareness that older citizens living on their own need greater protection against abuse, neglect and exploitation.



That concern is driving legislative initiatives in Washington and Frankfort. The Cabinet for Families and Children (CFC) is also working to improve the protective services it offers all elderly Kentuckians, whether they live independently or in long-term care.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. CFC Secretary Viola Miller said that, while protection of elderly people in nursing homes needs improvement, domestic violence aimed at seniors is also a major concern.

"Kentucky's vulnerable elders are not being adequately protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation, both in the community and long-term care settings," Miller said in a letter sent on Oct. 9 to members of Kentucky's congressional delegation.

"As is the case nationally, incidents of elder abuse in Kentucky are underreported, current law does not ensure a seamless system of protection among state agencies, and, too often, abuse recurs."

Miller's letter urges Kentucky's members of Congress to support the Elder Justice Act of 2002. Introduced in the Senate last month by Sens. John Breaux (D-La.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), the bill would create Offices of Elder Justice at the Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice to serve programmatic, grant-making, policy and technical-assistance functions.

Other provisions call for more consistent funding and closer coordination among public, private and non-profit entities involved in preventing elder abuse.

In a request for co-sponsors, Breaux and Hatch said their bill applies lessons learned from combating child abuse and violence against women to the fight to protect seniors.

"We need a combined law enforcement and public health approach to study, detect, treat, prosecute and, most importantly, prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation," they said.

A study commissioned by Congress indicates the scope of abuse and neglect suffered by seniors living in their own homes.

The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study showed that approximately 450,000 elderly persons in domestic settings were abused, neglected or both during 1996. When elderly persons who experienced self-neglect were included, the estimated number of victims rose to 551,000.

Only 21 percent of the estimated number of cases of abuse, neglect or self-neglect during 1996 were reported to adult protective service agencies. The researchers believed that finding confirms what they call the "iceberg" theory-that

official reporting agencies hear about only the most visible types of abuse and neglect.

The research showed that most victims of elder abuse and neglect were women and that about 90 percent of accused perpetrators were related to the victims. Adult children were the largest category of abusers.

Like the federal bill, legislation under review in Frankfort would also strengthen protections for vulnerable seniors. State legislators are considering measures that would stiffen criminal penalties for those who abuse the elderly, clarify the roles of the state agencies involved in protecting vulnerable adults and target predatory lending practices often used to victimize seniors.

Aided by an Adult Protective Services Advisory Council, the cabinet is crafting legislative proposals of its own.

Among other things, these proposals would ensure that the cabinet collaborates closely with the state Long-Term Care Ombudsman and with the Cabinet for Health Services' Office of the Inspector General, which licenses and regulates nursing homes. The cabinet also will work to see that criminal penalties for elder abuse are placed in sections of state law commonly consulted by police.

Other reforms that can be made under existing law are already being put in place. For example, through changes in training and staff assignment, the cabinet will strengthen its regional offices' capacity to promptly investigate reported instances of abuse and neglect in nursing homes and other alternate care settings.

The cabinet and advisory council are also planning a public awareness campaign aimed at alerting all age groups, including the elderly themselves, to the existence of elder abuse and educating them in ways to identify and combat the abuse, neglect or exploitation of older citizens.

CFC Deputy Secretary Tim Jackson, who is leading the cabinet's efforts to improve services to the elderly, said the goal is "a more seamless system of protective services for all vulnerable elders . . . . Everything we've done to date holds the promise of a better quality of life for all older Kentuckians."